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IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-10   (Canceled)

11.   (Currently amended)   A storage apparatus for setting
at least a logical volume over a plurality of physical storage
devices, said apparatus comprising:

means for receiving a volume creation request
specifying a requested average performance;

means for forming a judgment as to whether or not
all logical volumes, which include present logical volumes
that are already set and each sharing any of said storage
devices with a logical volume to be created and said logical
volume to be created, each satisfy its requested average
performance by referring to information of requested average
performance on a storage means for each of said present
logical volumes; and

means for setting said logical volume to be created
if said all said logical volumes each satisfy said requested
average performance.

12.   (Previously presented)   A storage apparatus
according to claim 11, wherein said information of requested
average performance is based on performance information

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collected by a client computer which accesses said storage

apparatus.

        13.   (Currently amended)   A storage apparatus according

to claim 12, further comprising:

            means for receiving an unoccupied-area-searching

request specifying information on said requested average

performance;

            means for forming a judgment as to whether or not

~~all~~ logical volumes, which include present logical volumes

that are already set and said new volume supposed to be added

to said present logical volumes, each satisfy its requested

average performance by referring to said information of

requested average performance for each of said present logical

volumes which share any of said storage devices with an

unoccupied area; and

            means for displaying information on said area if ~~all~~

said logical volumes each satisfy said requested average

performance.

        14.   (Currently amended)   A computer system comprising a

storage apparatus, a client computer which accesses said

storage apparatus, and a volume management apparatus which

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sets at least a logical volume over a plurality of physical

storage devices residing in said storage apparatus,

said client computer having means for transmitting a

volume creation request specifying a requested average

performance to said volume management apparatus, and

said volume management apparatus comprising:

means for receiving said volume creation request

from said client computer;

means for forming a judgment as to whether or not

~~all~~ logical volumes, which include present logical volumes

that are already set and each sharing any of said storage

devices with a logical volume to be created and said logical

volume to be created, each satisfy its requested average.

performance by referring to information of requested average

performance on a storage means for each of said present

logical volumes; and

means for setting said logical volume to be created

if said ~~all said~~ logical volumes each satisfy said requested

average performance.

15. (Previously presented) A computer system according

to claim 14, wherein said information of requested average

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performance is based on performance information collected by said client computer.

16. (Previously presented) A computer system according to claim 14, wherein said information of requested average performance is based on performance information obtained by said storage apparatus.

17. (Currently amended) A computer system comprising a storage apparatus, a client computer which accesses said storage apparatus, and a volume management apparatus which sets at least a logical volume over a plurality of physical storage devices residing in said storage apparatus,

said client computer having means for transmitting a volume creation request specifying a requested average performance to said volume management apparatus, and

said storage apparatus comprising:

means for receiving said volume creation request from said client computer;

means for forming a judgment as to whether or not all logical volumes, which include present logical volumes that are already set and each sharing any of said storage devices with a logical volume to be created and said logical

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volume to be created, each satisfy its requested average

performance by referring to information of requested average

performance on a storage means for each of said present

logical volumes; and

                means for setting said logical volume to be created

if said ~~all said~~ logical volumes each satisfy said requested

average performance.

        18.   (Previously presented) A computer system according

to claim 17, wherein said information of requested average

performance is based on performance information collected by

said client computer.

        19.   (Previously presented) A computer system according

to claim 17, wherein said information of requested average

performance is based on performance information obtained by

said storage apparatus.

        20.   (Currently amended) A volume management method for

setting at least a logical volume over a plurality of physical

storage devices residing in a storage apparatus, said method

comprising the steps of:

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receiving a volume creation request specifying a

requested average performance;

forming a judgment as to whether or not ~~all~~ logical

volumes, which include present logical volumes that are

already set and each sharing any of said storage devices with

a logical volume to be created and said logical volume to be

created, each satisfy its requested average performance by

referring to information of requested average performance on a

storage means for each of said present logical volumes; and

setting said logical volume to be created if said

~~all~~ said logical volumes each satisfy said requested average

performance.

21.   (Previously presented) A volume management method

according to claim 20, wherein said information of requested

average performance is based on performance information

collected by a client computer which accesses said storage

apparatus.

22.   (Previously presented) A volume management method

according to claim 20, wherein said information of requested

average performance is based on performance information

obtained by said storage apparatus.

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23.   (Currently amended)   A computer system comprising a
storage apparatus, a client computer which accesses said
storage apparatus, and a volume management apparatus which
searches for an unoccupied area used by a new logical volume
over a plurality of physical storage devices residing in said
storage apparatus,

said client computer having means for transmitting
an unoccupied-area-searching request specifying information on
requested average performance to said volume management
apparatus, and

said volume management apparatus comprising:

means for receiving said unoccupied-area-searching
request from said client computer;

means for forming a judgment as to whether or not
all logical volumes, which include present logical volumes
that are already set and said new volume supposed to be added
to said present logical volumes, each satisfy its requested
average performance by referring to information of requested
average performance on a storage means for each of said
present logical volumes which share any of said storage
devices with an unoccupied area; and

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means for displaying information on said area if ~~all~~

said logical volumes each satisfy said requested average

performance.

24.   (Currently amended) A computer system comprising a

storage apparatus and a client computer which accesses said

storage apparatus, said storage apparatus searching for an

unoccupied area used by a new logical volume over a plurality

of physical storage devices residing in said storage

apparatus,

said client computer having means for transmitting

an unoccupied-area-searching request specifying information on

requested average performance to said storage apparatus, and

said storage apparatus comprising:

means for receiving said unoccupied-area-searching

request from said client computer;

means for forming a judgment as to whether or not

~~all~~ logical volumes, which include present logical volumes

that are already set and said new volume supposed to be added

to said present logical volumes, each satisfy its requested

average performance by referring to information of requested

average performance on a storage means for each of said

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present logical volumes which share any of said storage

devices with an unoccupied area; and

means for displaying information on said area if all

said logical volumes each satisfy said requested average

performance.

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